

To the Youth of Germany . . .

THE FOLLOWING SPEECH WAS DELIVERED by Adolf Hitler to the Nationalist Socialist Youth organizations (NS), on Sept. 8, 1934, during the yearly “Reichsparteitag” conference in Nuremberg. The Fuehrer’s address has been translated from the original German audio file and, as far as we know, we’ve never seen an English translation of this speech published before.

Translated by Theresa Wettstein

My German Youth,

After a year’s time, I can greet you here again!

Since then, enormous events have taken place in Germany. Already 12 months have passed, and the battle for power has granted us success. In the meantime, our movement—of which you are the young guards today and the bearers of the future—has taken hold of one position after another in our country and bestowed it to the German people. At the same time, your movement has grown from an already large union to the largest youth organization in the world.

We know that nothing is handed to a people. Everything must be fought for and conquered. There is nothing you can take possession of that you have not first learned and instilled into yourself. And so now, we want you, German boys and German girls, to take up all that we have hope for in Germany—what we want to see achieved in Germany.

We want to be *one* nation, and you, my youth, shall now become this nation. We do not want to see class and status differences anymore, and so you must not allow yourselves to nurture attitudes that promote them. We want to see *one* Reich, and you must even now train yourselves for this in *one* organization. We want our folk to be loyal, and you must learn this loyalty. We want our folk to be obedient, and you must practice obedience. We want our folk to be peace loving, but also brave. Yet ever ready for peace.

We do not want our people to be weaklings but that

they can be tough in order to withstand the difficulties of life. And you must train yourselves for this in your youth. We want our people to love honor, and you must declare yourselves to the principle of honor already in your youngest years.

All that we demand of the Germany of the future, we demand from you, boys and girls.

This you must practice and, in this, contribute to the future. No matter what we create today and what we do, we will pass away one day. But in you, Germany will live on. And when there is nothing left of us, you must bear the flag in your hand—a flag which we once raised from nothing.

You must therefore stand confident on the soil of your country, and you must be strong so that this flag will never be taken from you. And then, when generation after generation comes after you, you will have the right to demand the same from them. Then you can demand from your future youth that they be like you were.

Germany looks at you with pride. Everyone’s heart runs over with joy when we see you. We see in you the promise that our work was not in vain and we realize that it bears fruit for our country. We are all gripped with a proud happiness to see in you the fulfillment of our work. With that we have the assurance that the millions who died in World War I—the great numbers of our comrades—have not made the sacrifice for Germany in vain, so that in the end a one-spirited, free, proud and honor-loving people will emerge.

And I know it cannot be any other way because you are flesh from our flesh and blood from our blood, and in your young minds burns the same spirit that drives us.

You cannot be any other way but be bound to us. And when the large processions of our movement march today gloriously through Germany, then we know that you will join these columns, and we know before us lays Germany. In us marches Germany. And after us comes Germany! ♦

THERESA WETTSTEIN is a U.S. citizen who grew up in Germany and lives on the West Coast. She has a degree in Liberal Arts and has translated business documents for various U.S. companies.